PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 09/504,330

REMARKS

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Claims 1-7, 12-17, 19-24, 26-28, and 30-31 remain pending and are subject to a §101 rejection. As discussed during the Interview, the applicant has now added language in each of the independent claims to address the Examiner's request that the "body of these claims must recite technology." (Office Action at paragraph 5). Based on the Examiner's comments during the Interview, the proposed language is believed to fully satisfy this requirement. Support for this language is provided, e.g., on pages 32-33 of the written description.

In addition, in claim 17 the word "simulator" has been changed to "simulation" to conform the language in this claim to the language of the other independent claims.

As a result, amended independent Claims 1, 17, 22, 26 and 30 are now allowable, as they fully satisfy the requirements of §§ 101, 102, 103 and 112 of Title 35, United States Code. The dependent claims are allowable for the same reasons.

Of course, the undersigned stands ready to work with the Examiner to address any remaining issues.

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Date: February 3, 2004

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